

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed on January 29, 2007. No fee is due in connection with this Amendment. The Director is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 112701-489 on the account statement.

Claims 1-9, 13-26 and 30-35 are pending in this application. Claims 27-29 were previously withdrawn. Claim 10-12 was previously canceled. Claims 31-35 are allowed. In the Office Action, Claims 1-9, 13-14, 17-18, 20, 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 and Claims 15-16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103. In response Applicants have canceled Claims 1-9, 13-26 and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendment. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the previously canceled claims in a continuation application.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application and earnestly solicit an early allowance of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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